

and endorsed his right to a patent on his novel device. In 1837, his determinism paid off, and he secured a patent.

John Deere was born in Rutland, VT and spent most of his early life in Middlebury. After moving out West, John Deere realized the cast-iron plows he and other settlers brought with them were not going to work in the Midwest soil. He studied the problem and developed the first successful steel plow using steel from a broken saw blade. This new steel plow became the key for successful farming in the West, and "John Deere" is still synonymous with farming equipment today.

Vermont continues to be a leader in inventing and obtaining patents. My State ranks fourth in the Nation for number of patents issued. IBM's Essex Junction Plant, which designs and makes computer technology for a wide range of products, received 411 patents from the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in 2002. Vermont's plant also has 18 inventors who together have earned more than 600 patents. One of those inventors is Steve Voldman, the top patent winner. Over the past 10 years, he has received 110 patents. In 2002, he received 29. Many of his 2002 patents had to do with silicon germanium, a new technology that has produced the world's fastest chip.

Today's inventors are individuals in a shop, garage or home lab. They are teams of scientists working in our largest corporations or at our colleges and universities. In the spirit of independent inventors, small businesses, venture capitalists and larger corporations in Vermont and all over the United States, I would like to recognize February 11, 2003, as National Inventors' Day.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to conduct a business meeting on Wednesday February 5, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. in SD-124. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss and vote on the following: Committee funding resolution, subcommittee assignments, and committee rules.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 5, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Mr. William H. Donaldson to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, February 5, 2003, at 9:30 a.m. on the state of professional boxing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on Wednesday, February 5, 2003, at 10 a.m. to consider pending calendar business.

AGENDA

On Wednesday, February 5, at 10 a.m., the Committee will hold a Business Meeting in Room SD-366 to consider the following items on the Agenda:

Agenda Item #1: S. 111—A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the national significance of the Miami Circle site in the State of Florida as well as the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System.

Agenda Item #2: S. 117—A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange certain land in the State of Florida, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item #3: S. 144—A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance through States to eligible weed management entries to control or eradicate harmful, nonnative weeds on public and private land.

Agenda Item #5: S. 210—A bill to provide for the protection of archaeological sites in the Galisteo Basin in New Mexico, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item #9: S. 214—A bill to designate For Bayard Historic District in the State of New Mexico as a National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes.

Agenda Item #10: S. 233—A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of Coltsville in the State of Connecticut for potential inclusion in the National Park System.

Agenda Item #11: S. 254—A bill to revise the boundary of the Kaloko-Honkōhau National Historical Park in the State of Hawaii, and for other purposes.

In addition, the Committee may turn to any other measures that are ready for consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session on Wednesday, February 5, 2003, at 2:15 p.m., to hear testimony on Revenue Proposals in the President's FY 2004 Budget.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet in open Executive Session during the session on Wednesday, February 5, 2003, at 10:00

a.m., to mark up original bills, entitled, the Armed Forces Tax Fairness Act of 2003 and the CARE Act of 2003.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 5, 2003 at 10 a.m. to hold a committee business meeting.

Agenda

The Committee will consider and vote on the following agenda items:

TREATY: Treaty Doc. 107-8, Treaty Between U.S. and Russian Federation on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("Moscow Treaty")

LEGISLATION: S. , an original bill, the U.S. Leadership Against HIV/AIDS Tuberculosis and Malaria Act of 2003 (tentative)

S. , an original resolution regarding committee funding for the 108th Congress

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION MATTER: 1. Sub-committee Membership for the 108th Congress

NOMINATIONS: 1. FSO Promotion List, Nicely, et al dated January 15, 2003

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a judicial nominations hearing on Wednesday, February 5, 2003, in Dirksen Room 226 at 9:30 a.m.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Panel I: the Honorable Paul Sarbanes; the Honorable Barbara Mikulski; the Honorable Byron Dorgan; the Honorable Mike DeWine; the Honorable John Ensign, and the Honorable Earl Pomeroy.

Panel II: Jay S. Bybee to be U.S. Court of Appeals Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Panel III: Ralph R. Erickson to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota; William D. Quarles, Jr. to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland; Gregory L. Frost to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for a hearing entitled "The Small Business Healthcare Crisis: Possible Solutions" and other matters on Wednesday, February 5, 2003, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the subcommittee on Aviation of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be

authorized to meet on Wednesday, February 5, 2003, at 2:30 p.m. on aviation security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the privilege of the floor be granted to the following members of my staff, Camila McLean and Jim Irwin, during the pendency of the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.J. Res. 18

Mr. HATCH. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate receives H.J. Res. 18, the continuing resolution, if it is the same text as the resolution I send to the desk, it be read the third time and passed, that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to it be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FIS- CAL YEAR 2003

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces that the Senate has received H.J. Res. 18 in the form contemplated by the agreement and, therefore, the joint resolution is read the third time and passed.

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 18) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

H.J. RES. 18

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Public Law 107-229 is further amended by striking the date specified in section 107(c) and inserting in lieu thereof "February 20, 2003".

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-924. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Mine Safety and Health, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emergency Evacuations; Emergency Temporary Standard (1219-AB33)" received on January 21, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-925. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the allocating of \$200 million in Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) supplemental contingency funds, received on January 27, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-926. A communication from the Assistant Legal Advisor for Treaty Affairs, Depart-

ment of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States with Japan, Sri Lanka and Armenia, received on January 27, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-927. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report that provides "the aggregate number, locations, activities, and lengths of assignment for all temporary and permanent U.S. military personnel and U.S. individual civilians retained as contractors involved in the antinarcotics campaign in Colombia" received on January 16, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-928. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the status of the efforts to obtain Iraq's compliance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council, received on January 21, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-929. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the "Presidential Determination on Waiver of Conditions on Obligation and Expenditure of Funds for Planning, Design, and Construction of a Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility in Russia" received on January 23, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-930. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the export of Defense articles or Defense services sold commercially under a contract in the amount of 50,000,000 or more to Russia related to Proton Space Launch Vehicle; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-931. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the export of Defense articles or Defense services sold commercially under a contract in the amount of 50,000,000 concerning Japan and the Galaxy Express; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-932. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Enrollment—Provision of Hospital and Outpatient Care to Veterans—Subpriorities of Priority Categories 7 and 8 and Annual Enrollment Level Decision (2900-AL51)" received on January 27, 2003; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

EC-933. A communication from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period of April 1, 2002 to September 30, 2002; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-934. A communication from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to new mileage reimbursement rates for Federal employees who use privately owned vehicle while on official travel; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-935. A communication from the Chairman of the Board, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2003 to September 30, 2002; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-936. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission fiscal Year 2002, Performance and Accountability

Report and the Inspector General's Fiscal Year 2002 Performance Report; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-937. A communication from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Fiscal Year Budget Estimates and Performance Plan; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-938. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Performance and Accountability Report of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-939. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-482 "Inheritance and Estate Tax Temporary Act of 2002" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-940. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-470 "Freedom Forum Real Property Tax Exemption and Equitable Real Property Tax Relief Temporary Act of 2002" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-941. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-472 "Council Review of Existing Convention Center Site Redevelopment Temporary Amendment Act of 2002" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-942. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-471 "Transfer of Jurisdiction of Reservation 19 and 124 Temporary Act 2002" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-943. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-468 "Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Property Dedication Transfer Tax Exemption Temporary" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-944. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-469 "Motor Vehicle Registration and Operator's Permit Issuance Enhancement Temporary Amendment Act 2002" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-945. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-466 "Ward Redistricting Residential Permit Parking Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2002" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-946. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-467 "Other-Type Funds Temporary Act of 2002" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-947. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-543 "Fiscal Year 2003 Budget Support Amendment Act of 2002" received on January 31, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-948. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on D.C. ACT 14-463 "Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Conformity Act of